

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 AS-01 SSO-00

NSCE-00 EURE-00 /027 W

----- 084061

O R 121955Z NOV 76

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 240

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

INFO CINCUSAREUR

USNMR SHAPE

DA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6210

DA FOR LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

EO11652 GDS

TAGS MARR NATO

SUBJECT VISIT OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS TALLEY AND GIES

REF CINCEUR ECJ4/7 19672, 040950Z NOV 76.

1. AS ANTICIPATED BEFORE THEIR ARRIVAL IN BRUSSELS, THE OVERRIDING INTEREST OF STAFFDEL IS IN NATO OPERATIONAL FLEXIBILITY, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO NORTHAG BRIGADE. THE RELATIVELY SHORT TIME THEY SPENT ON INFRASTRUCTURE QUESTIONS WAS RELATED ENTIRELY TO THE MAIN ISSUE. THEY ARE ALSO ACTIVELY CONCERNED WITH THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE NORTHAG BRIGADE TO THE NORTHAG COMMITMENTS OF THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, AND THE UK.

2. THE FIRST OF THREE KEY MEETINGS WAS HELD WITH BG SCHWEITZER OF SHAPE STAFF ON 10 NOV 76. THE MAIN AND RECURRING THEME OF THE DISCUSSION WAS THE ALLEGED EXISTENCE OF A US PLAN TO STATION AN ADDITIONAL TWO BRIGADES IN NORTHAG AS PROPOSED IN THE HOLLINGSWORTH REPORT. GENERAL SCHWEITZER STRESSED REPEATEDLY TO STAFFDEL THAT THIS IDEA CONFIDENTIAL

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REFLECTED ONLY STAFF LEVEL DISCUSSION AND THAT NO SUCH PLAN EXISTED AT THE PRESENT TIME. THERE WAS ALSO SOME DISCUSSION OF THE COMMITMENTS BY OUR ALLIES, BUT IT WAS AGREED THAT THIS AREA COULD BE HANDLED BY THE MISSION, AND WAS THE SUBJECT

OF THE SECOND MEETING, WITH USNATO DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE PLANNING (BADER). BADER GAVE AN ORAL RESUME OF THE FORCE COMMITMENTS OF THE FOUR NORTHAG ALLIES AND LATER PROVIDED FIGURES IN WRITING, DRAWN FROM NATIONAL RESPONSES TO THE DEFENSE PLANNING QUESTIONNAIRE, WHICH ARE BEING TRANSMITTED TO STAFFDEL THROUGH DA. THE THIRD MEETING WAS WITH DEPUTY DEFENSE ADVISOR (BG SEIGLE), AND COVERED ALL ASPECTS OF THE NORTHAG BRIGADE STATIONING. GENERAL SEIGLE WAS ABLE TO REINFORCE EARLIER STATEMENTS TO THE STAFFDEL THAT THERE ARE NO CURRENT PLANS TO ADD TWO BRIGADES.

3. ON DEPARTING THE MISSION, STAFFDEL DECLARED THEMSELVES WELL SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF THEIR MEETINGS HERE. STRAUSSZ-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 30 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 NOV 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NATO06210
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761199/baaaazqb.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 JUL 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: n/a
To: STATE
SECDEF
USCINCEUR INFO CINCUSAREUR
USNMR SHAPE
DA
Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006